(c) whether Government are considering to convert Mega Hydel Projects into Mini Hydel Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The Government is laying emphasis on the development of the hydro power potential of the country, including that of Himachal Pradesh, as it is a renewable, economic, non-polluting and environmentally benign source of energy. Hydroelectric projects are taken up for execution only after due environmental appraisal. Hydro Power Projects sometimes impact on the environment on account of construction requirements, roads, and submergence in reservoir projects. Whenever hydro power projects are taken up for execution, environmental concerns are addressed and the impacts attended with great care.

There is no proposal under consideration to convert Mega Hydel Projects into Mini Hydel Projects.

National Integrated Energy Policy

†1890. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to announce national integrated energy policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) An Energy Policy Committee has been set up in the Planning Commission to formulate an integrated energy policy for the country. The draft report of the Committee has been prepared.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.